



# Henry County, Virginia

E-Newsletter from the official website of Henry County, VA

## Henry County Monthly Newsletter

### April 2010

#### **Proposed County Budget to be presented Tuesday**

The proposed Fiscal Year 2010 Henry County Budget will be presented Tuesday, April 6, at 5 p.m. in the fourth floor conference room of the Henry County Administration Building on Kings Mountain Road.

County Administrator Benny Summerlin will present the proposed budget to the Board of Supervisors, which has final approval. The Board and County staff are scheduled to hold a work session on the budget on Thursday, April 8 at 5 p.m.

A public hearing on the FY 2011 Budget is scheduled for Monday, April 19, at 7 p.m. in the first floor meeting room of the County Administration Building. This meeting is designed to receive public input on the Henry County School System's budget and the overall County Budget.

The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to adopt a FY 2011 budget on April 27 at 3 p.m. The budget would take effect on July 1.

#### **Have you filled it out yet?**

The 2010 Census is well under way and most residents should have received their questionnaires by mail. It is vitally important that each household fill out the form and return it, because your community needs your participation. More than \$300 billion in federal money is distributed based on Census information, and we want to get our share of that pie.

The form is designed to take no more than 10 minutes to complete, and most residents can do so in less time than that.

If you are concerned about your personal information being given to someone else, the Census Bureau has taken steps against such action. The form does not request your Social Security Number, and requests your telephone number only if there are questions about your form.

In addition, none of the individual information gathered can be shared with any other federal, state or local agency. If that happens, the person who leaked it is subject to criminal charges that could include a \$250,000 fine and/or up to five years in prison. The only information that can be released for the next 70 years is aggregate data - i.e., number of residents in a home, number of English-speaking residents, etc.

All Census forms were mailed to particular addresses instead of specific people. However, if your only mail receptacle is a post office box, you most likely have not received a form. To discuss this issue, or to have questions answered on other Census issues, you can visit the Census Questionnaire Assistance Center in the Henry County Administration Building.

A Census representative will be available Monday through Friday from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Administration Building on Kings Mountain Road. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please stop by the #3 meeting room on the first floor.

Please know that all residents are required by law to participate in the Census 2010 and could face

criminal charges for not participating. If you do not mail in your form, a Census worker will come to your home to ensure the form gets completed. The best way to ensure that no one comes to your house is to fill in the form and mail it back.

## **New trail to be open by fall**

Area residents will soon have a new trail through Martinsville and Henry County.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held March 31 for the "Dick & Willie Passage," a paved 4.5-mile nature trail along a former stretch of railroad previously owned by Norfolk Southern. The new trail is expected to be open this fall and eventually will be part of a statewide effort called Beaches to Bluegrass Trail System.

The rail trail will include a paved 10-foot wide trail surface with four trailheads, a scenic overlook at Mulberry Creek and a restroom facility at the Liberty Street trailhead. The trail will begin near the El Parral restaurant on Commonwealth Boulevard and continue east across the train bridge at Liberty Street. It will end east of Martinsville at Mulberry Creek.

The trail will be operated and maintained by Henry County Parks and Recreation. Other local partners include Dan River Basin Association and Martinsville-Henry County Rivers and Trails group. Future phases of the trail will continue west to connect to the existing 2.5-mile Fieldale Trail and east to connect to the new Smith River Sports Complex.

This recreation facility will provide a great place for residents and visitors to exercise and enjoy the outdoors and beautiful scenery of Martinsville and Henry County. The trail will be suitable for walking, biking, running, roller blading and other activities. Please contact Parks and Recreation at 634.4640 for additional information on this project or any recreation opportunities in the area.

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